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Member ID:

November 2020
Rishanda Richardson, Editor

In the Loop

Missouri NEA's electronic newsletter



News

Training

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Stay in school



NOTICE

Missouri NEA believes the guidance outlined in this flyer puts students and school employees at greater risk of COVID-19 exposure and infection. To ensure the health and safety of the children, teachers and other school staff, and their families, MNEA strongly recommends schools continue to follow the **CDC guidelines**, whereas, those exposed to a COVID+ individual should **quarantine for 14 days after the last exposure.**

and those exposed are wearing masks

COVID +

Close Contacts



and those exposed are wearing masks

COVID +

Close Contacts



CLOSE CONTACT:

within 2 feet for a minimum of 15 minutes. COVID-19 total of more than 10 people throughout a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection).

SELF-MONITOR:

Dangerous Changes to K-12 COVID-19 Guidance Issued by State

MNEA advises school districts to follow the science-based CDC recommendations.

Gov. Mike Parson, in conjunction with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, issued modifications to Missouri's K-12 school reopening and operating guidance. Missouri NEA Pres. Phil Murray issued the following statement:

“As educators, student safety is our top priority. It should also be the top priority of our state’s leaders. The dangerous choice to allow people exposed to COVID-19 to remain in a school building

jeopardizes children, educators, and families. The likely irreparable harm to the health of students, our colleagues, and families compels us to speak out.

"Educators are frustrated that as health experts across the state sound the alarm of runaway COVID-19 cases filling hospitals, Gov. Parson and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) would choose now to adopt this dangerous guidance.

"Permitting persons exposed to COVID-19 to remain in contact with students and educators is indefensible. It will put more strain on the nurses and doctors in our local hospitals working to save lives. Now is the time to focus on implementing more aggressive mitigation strategies such as increased ventilation, reduced class size to enable social distancing, virtual education, higher quality PPE, and hiring additional staff to aid in sanitization. We call on local school boards and superintendents to stand with our students and educators and reject this guidance."

[Read More](#)



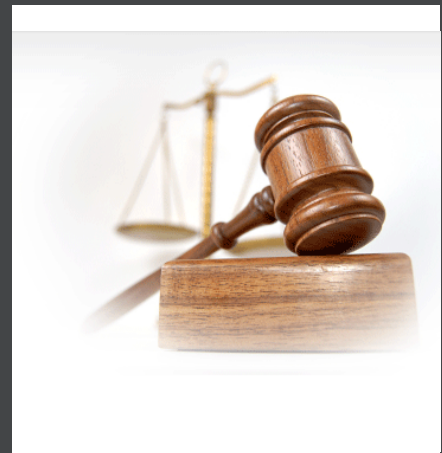
Reject new state COVID-19 guidelines
Write your local school board.

On Thurs., Nov. 12, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in conjunction with Gov. Parson issued modifications to Missouri's K-12 school reopening and operating plan. The new guidelines permit masked persons exposed to COVID-19 to



Assessments:
Formative and summative from a distance
VIRTUAL TRAINING

Join expert NEA trainers Mon., Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. for this virtual event. They will demonstrate how popular EdTech tools can be leveraged to collect formative and summative student assessments and how they can inform instruction in an



Missouri Supreme Court deliberates fate of anti-labor law HB 1413
NEA attorney argues teachers' rights.

On Nov. 16, NEA attorney Jason Walta represented Missouri teachers and thousands of state employees before the Missouri Supreme Court during an on-going battle against HB 1413, which was signed into law by former

remain in contact with students and educators and not quarantine per CDC recommendations.

As cases skyrocket in Missouri, we ask our fellow educators and supporters to join us in writing to the State Board of Education and their local school board demanding that these guidelines are rescinded and under no circumstances adopted by school districts.

[Take Action >](#)

asynchronous environment.

You do not need to be a member to sign up for this training. Invite colleagues to virtually attend this event with you.


No-Cost
Mon., Dec. 7, 2020
6 p.m.

[Read More >](#)

Gov. Eric Greitens.


In January 2020, St. Louis County Circuit Court Judge Joseph Walsh ruled the law unconstitutional. It's now in the hands of the state's highest court. Click the link below to read about the hearing.

[Learn More >](#)



“We serve as the united voice to promote, advance and protect public education and to advocate for the rights and interests of students and our members.”

MISSION STATEMENT
of Missouri National Education Association



The News

MNEA integral part in upholding standards for substitute teachers

Protecting the promise of quality public education.

With the COVID-19 pandemic raging, school districts are desperate for substitute teachers. The State Board of Education initiated a temporary policy for hiring substitutes that greatly diminished the education requirements, whereas, a substitute was not even required to have a high school diploma. Missouri NEA stepped in to urge the SBOE not to make this change permanent, making sure that qualifications for those teaching Missouri students were not sub-standard for years to come. Read more in the winter issue of [Something Better](#) magazine coming in December.

[PSRS-PEERS](#)

[State Board of](#)

[Run for NEA R.A.](#)

Board of Trustees Report

MNEA Legislative Director Otto Fajen attends the Board meetings of the Public School Retirement/Public Education Employees System. Read the report from the Oct. 26, 2020 meeting. The report summarizes the investment performance, system operations, audit, valuation, budget and capital projects. The two-year cumulative CPI-U total is 2.30% (FY2019 +1.65% plus FY2020+.65%), which meets the threshold to raise the COLA for pension payments. The Board voted unanimously to grant a COLA increase beginning January 2021.

MNEA member and PSRS-PEERS Board Chair Jason Hoffman thanked Steve Yoakum for his years of service as Executive Director. Effective Dec. 1, [Dearld Snider](#) will fill the position of Executive Director.

[Read More >](#)

Education Report

MNEA Vice President Rebeka McIntosh and MNEA Teaching & Learning Director Ann Jarrett attend the State Board of Education meetings. Read the Oct. 20 meeting report detailing:

- Lowering GPA for teacher certification.
- Mixed results for MOCAP's first-year.
- Impact of COVID-19 on instruction and attendance rates.
- \$107 million of CARES funding released to public schools.
- Gov. Parson deems \$61.5 million distribution to be based on attendance.
- Lindbergh NEA member, Darrion Cockrell, honored as 2021 Missouri Teacher of the Year.

[Read More >](#)

Working on your National Board Certification?
Receive help from mentors during NBC Candidate Boost Days.

State Delegate

Declare by Jan. 15, 2021

The NEA R.A. is scheduled for July 2-6, 2021, in Denver, CO. This is your chance to run for state delegate to represent Missouri at the national representative assembly. Meet teachers and education support professionals from every state. Build strong state and local teams while networking with other state and national leaders. Experience the largest democratic body in the nation at work.

The deadline to declare your candidacy is Jan. 15, 2021. You will need to upload a photograph of yourself and a 100-word statement.

[Read More >](#)



Public Education

is an important part of our community.



Public schools educate tomorrow's workforce,

helping students learn the lessons they will need to be a successful part of our community.

VIRTUAL: Sat., Feb. 27 and Sat., April 10

MNEA continues its National Board Certification Boost Days in 2021. These virtual sessions are intended for those currently working to submit entries during the 2020-2021 National Board Certification cycle.

Have your component work, videos, portfolios, and standards ready for discussion and guidance from NBCTs and mentors. We will address all questions and allow time to collaborate with others in the group.

For more information, visit www.mnea.org/nbc.

Interested in National Board Certification and want to learn more about it? Attend one of the following virtual sessions Exploring National Board Certification.

Mon., Jan. 25 at 7-8:30 p.m.

Mon., April 19 at 7-8:30 p.m.

Register at www.mnea.org/nbc.

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for Professional
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MNEA-Retired was busy this spring, distributing CHEER grants. Help replenish the funds for next year. Click the button below to give to CHEER.

[Donate Now >](#)

CMU Graduate Courses Earn up to nine credits per year for just \$225.

For one low annual fee of \$225, Missouri NEA members may take one course each term (fall, spring and summer) to complete up to three graduate courses in 12 months. Or they may take two courses in the summer and skip either the fall or spring semester.

Each course is two or three graduate credit hours, so educators can earn from six to nine graduate credits. Choose from 17 self-paced, online courses for professional growth or salary advancement.

MNEA partners with Central Methodist University and Virtual Education Software to offer these courses. We recommend members check with their school districts to be sure these courses are accepted for salary schedule credit before signing up.

[Read More](#)



CONTESTS, GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

2021 APPLICATION DATES

Missouri NEA helps students and educators fund their ideas and education. Find contest, scholarship and grant application dates below.

CONTESTS

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Poster-Essay Contest [Due Jan. 15 >>](#)

Teachers Matter [Tell your story >>](#)

SCHOLARSHIPS

PDK Scholarships for undergraduate and advanced education degrees [Open Jan. 2021 >>](#)

Gilbert Balderrama Minority Scholarship for high-school seniors [Due Jan. 15 >>](#)

Educators Rising Scholarship for high-school seniors [Due Feb. 10 >>](#)

Cochran Scholarship for Aspiring Educators [Due Feb. 10 >>](#)

Jack Kinnaman Scholarship for Aspiring Educators [Due April 15 >>](#)

GRANTS

NEA Foundation Learning & Leadership Grants [Due Dec. 1 and Feb. 28 >>](#)

NEA Foundation Student Success Grants [Due Dec. 1 and Feb. 28 >>](#)

Reliant Financial Services Tuition Grant for Teachers and ESP [Due Jan. 31 >>](#)

CHEER Fund Grants [Due Feb. 1 >>](#)

NEA Aspiring Educators CREATE Grants [Due Feb. 1 >>](#)

NEA Great Public Schools Grant [Due Feb. 1 >>](#)

NEA Foundation Global Fellowship [Varies >>](#)

NEA Student-Centered Advocacy Grants [Apply anytime >>](#)

California Casualty Arts & Music Grant [Apply anytime >>](#)

WE'RE
HERE
FOR YOU

Take the Survey >

MNEA Listens: Health and Safety Survey

The health and safety of educators, school employees, and students is Missouri NEA's top priority. With Gov. Parson and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education recently releasing dangerous new K-12 guidelines for schools to follow, which are not based on the CDC safety measures, MNEA is concerned that educators and students may be put at greater risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19.

We need to hear from you. It just takes 10 minutes to [complete this survey](#).

Your answers are confidential. We want to ensure local, state and national leaders hear your united voice. Tell us if you feel it is safe for schools to be open for in-person instruction or schools should limit in-person instruction until the coronavirus pandemic is under control.



NEA Discount Marketplace powered by Rakuten

NEA Member Benefits is excited to partner with Rakuten to offer an online shopping experience for members. The NEA Discount Marketplace allows members to shop and save on brand-name merchandise from more than 2,500 retailers, online stores, and restaurants, while earning CASH BACK. [Visit the NEA Discount Marketplace website for details.](#)

It's quick and easy.

1. Browse the NEA Discount Marketplace for cash back offers.
2. Sign up for a Rakuten account through NEAMB.com.
3. Earn cash back on qualifying purchases.
4. Choose to receive cash back through PayPal or by check.

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The My Deals mobile app allows you to access discounts easily on your smartphone. Simply download the app, register and save. Search for "My Deals" in either the Android Google Play store or Apple App store. To register, enter MNEA's Program ID 9461. Provide your email address and if prompted, your NEA ID.

NEA ID:

Need help with My Deals?

Call (877) 428-4697

Apple App Store

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Log into MNEA.org

User Name: LastName+SSN4
(ex. Smith1234)

Password: Your NEA ID without the preceding zeros.
Your NEA ID is

Share this survey with your colleagues. This survey is open to any person working in the Missouri public schools-- teachers, nurses, office assistants, food service, bus drivers, paraprofessionals, any school employee.

Having trouble?
Call (573) 634-3202.

Take the Survey >



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